DIGITAL SATELLITE SERVICE

Installation and Maintenance

TAB The Electronics Authority

Robert L. Goodman

Contents

Introduction *xv*

1 Satellite TV history 1
Basic satellite operation *1*
The home TVRO system *3*
Commercial satellite systems *6*
Satellite video teleconferencing *8*
Conferencing services *9*
Satellite communications *9*
Satellite system *10*
Spacecraft launchings *10*
Satellite radio repeaters *13*
High-power direct TV broadcast *13*
A new DBS kid on the block *14*

2 DirecTV DSS satellite system *15*
The Castle Rock facility *15*
High-power satellites *18*
Customer service support *18*
DirecTV programming *19*
The DirecTV network *19*
The DSS program *20*
DirecTV information and overview *20*
The satellite system *21*
The programming *21*
More DSS features *21*
DSS sales and installation *22*
Distribution network *22*
How the DSS technology works *22*

Satellite information 26
Satellite uplink systems 26
Video programming 27
And on into the future 28

3 The dawning of a new video entertainment era 31
DSS market opportunity 32
Introduction to digital satellite system operation 33
Summary of how DSS works 34
Brief DSS user operation information 34
DSS operation summary 35
The DSS user interface 35
The DSS program guide 35
The DSS receiver 36
More Hughes satellite data 37
Will DSS be a success? 38
DSS picture quality 38
DSS customer's information glossary 39

4 DSS system installation 43
Overview 43
DSS dish carton 44
Assembling the dish 45
Attaching the dish to the LNB support arm 46
Materials required 46
Coaxial cable 47
Ground wire 47
Grounding block 47
Tools needed for DSS dish installation 47
Preinstallation information 48
Finding the satellite 48
Potential dish mounting site considerations 48
Various mounting options 50
Mounting the dish on wood 50
Roof mount considerations 50
Mounting the dish on brick or cinder block 52
Mounting the dish on a pole 53
Mounting the dish on a chimney 55

Identify cable requirements *56*
Selecting the mounting site *57*
Mounting the dish *58*
Attaching the mounting foot to wood *58*
Mounting on brick, poured concrete, or cinder block *60*
Mounting on a metal pole *61*
Mounting the dish on a chimney *62*
Vertically aligning the mast *65*
Securing the LNB support arm and dish to the mast *65*
Grounding the dish *68*
Installing and routing cable *73*
Routing cable through an exterior wall *74*
Routing cable under your interior floor *76*
Connecting the cable to the LNB *76*
Attaching the LNB to the LNB support arm *76*
Sealing the entry points *78*
Pointing the satellite dish *78*
Procedure for pointing the dish *78*
Using the menu system to find elevation and azimuth *78*
Setting the elevation *80*
Setting the azimuth *80*
Fine-tuning the azimuth *82*
Using the signal strength meter *82*
Locking in the satellite signal *83*
Fine-tuning the elevation *84*
Satellite location chart *84*
DSS installation glossary *87*

5 Complex "SMATV" distribution system *91*
The SMATV system *91*
Off-air antenna placement *93*
Satellite dish placement *93*
New home prewiring *93*
The Home Run system *95*
Installation and design tips *96*
Coaxial cable tips *96*
Hub/head systems *97*
Safety information *98*
National Electrical Code compliance and other restrictions *98*

DSS hookup configurations *98*
Single TV/single receiver/single output LNB *99*
Dual TV/dual receiver/dual output LNB *100*
Multiple TV/multiple receiver/dual output LNB with multiswitch *101*
Dual TV/single receiver/single output LNB *102*
Multiple TV/single receiver/single output LNB/MATV back feed *103*
Multiple multiswitch installation *104*
Off-air antenna reference information *105*
Antenna specifications *106*
Off-the-air antenna recommendations *107*
Market description matrix *107*

6 The big picture with the DSS system *117*
Using the DSS system with multiple TV sets *117*
Enhanced big-screen TV home theater *118*
State-of-the-art picture and sound *118*
State-of-the-art RCA DSS *118*
The big picture *119*
DSS system components *120*

7 The DBS satellite system *137*
Hughes DBS satellites *137*
Hughes spacecraft launch information *142*
Hughes triple play launch *144*
Intelsat satellite launch *145*
Ready for the launch *145*
Control center progress reports *147*
More satellite launching info *148*
The launch *148*
Launch overview *149*
One last blast *151*
Martin Marietta's launch of DBS-2 *152*

8 What you can watch with the DSS dish *155*
What you can see from the USSB service *155*
Movies *155*
Kids' shows *156*
Current issues *156*

Original programming *156*
Comedy *157*
Music *157*
Classics *157*
Multichannel programming *158*
The USSB and Hubbard services *159*
The Hubbard family *159*
USSB digital entertainment *160*
DirecTV programming *163*
DirecTV special interest programming *163*
Hughes-Hubbard and DBS *164*
DSS questions and answers *168*
What is DSS? *169*
What are the benefits of DSS? *170*
What does it cost? *171*
What programming is available on DSS? *171*
How is the DSS hardware installed? *172*
How does the on-screen menu work? *172*
What about local TV broadcasts? *172*
How are customers billed? *173*
Why does the system require an access card? *173*
Where does DSS broadcasting originate from? *173*
How does DSS compare with C-band satellites? *174*
How does DSS compare to cable? *174*
Is DSS affected by inclement weather? *174*
Is DSS an interim technology to be replaced by the information superhighway? *175*
Where can consumers and dealers get product information? *175*
DirecTV customer service *175*
The USSB company *178*
USSB programming information *181*
USSB programming essentials *188*
USSB Premium Plus *188*
USSB customer service center *188*
USSB dealer support *189*
USSB news release *189*
DSS viewer satisfaction *190*
Internet access with DirecTV *190*
Types of service *190*

9 Basic DSS technical overview and troubleshooting *193*
Satellite communication basics *193*
The satellite system *194*
RCA's DSS system *195*
Technical overview *195*
Uplink *195*
MPEG2 compression *195*
Data encryption *197*
Data packets *197*
Satellites *199*
The dish *200*
The LNB *200*
Receiver circuitry *202*
Diagnostics *204*
Customer-controlled diagnostics *204*
Servicer-controlled diagnostics *206*
Site survey information *208*
DSS dealer demonstration *209*
DSS troubleshooting *210*
Troubleshooting procedures *210*
Signal test *211*
DSS dish installation tips *213*
DSS installation certification test *216*

10 Detailed DSS receiver, coax cable, and telephone installation information *221*
Installing the LNB cable *221*
Attaching the LNB *225*
Attaching the LNB cable to the receiver *228*
Grounding the DSS dish *228*
Telephone cable comments *230*
Modular plug installation *233*
Wall plate installation *235*
Wireless phone adaptor *236*
Installing the DSS receiver *236*
The model DRD102RW receiver *236*
Receiver inputs *236*
Receiver outputs *237*

The model DRD203RW receiver *237*
Receiver inputs *238*
Receiver outputs *238*
System connections *239*
Pointing the dish *240*

Appendix 245
Glossary 251
Index 275
About the author 283

Introduction

THIS BOOK CONTAINS THE INFORMATION YOU SHOULD KNOW before signing up for these new, small-dish DSS satellite TV reception systems. It will help you to wisely select a system for your needs and show you how to install and adjust your own receiver and dish.

Information, photos, and drawings will be included for your assistance. Electronics technicians will also benefit from this book, by using it to determine if they should undertake training for the installation of the hardware for this new and fast-growing entertainment medium.

One chapter will be devoted to the "SMATV" distribution system. The acronym SMATV stands for "satellite master antenna television" system. This system combines the DSS satellite dish signal with off-air (terrestrial) or standard TV broadcast signals for a complete "in-house" video distribution network in the home.

Information on the Hughes satellite, sometimes referred to as the "high-powered bird," will be included in this book. The first DBS satellite was launched in December of 1993, and a second one went up in mid-1994.

Each satellite has sixteen high-powered (120-watt) transponders. They have been designed to accommodate analog and digital signals. They also have the capability to receive 16 × 9 wide-screen TV signals, as well as HDTV broadcasts once that revolutionary technology is in place.

The digital signals will be decoded by an integrated receiver/descrambler, which will reproduce them with "near laserdisc" quality. The stereo sound you will hear is dramatic CD-quality audio.

Also included will be a list of programs available for your viewing pleasure at the time of this book's publication. As more programs go online with the DSS system, all you "channel surfers" and "remote clickers" should have lots of fun viewing time.

Read, view, and enjoy.

Electronics

The only complete guide to installing, maintaining, and operating DSS receivers

Television that produces high-resolution pictures and CD-quality sound is now within the reach of the ordinary consumer, thanks to increasingly accessible and affordable Digital Satellite Service (DSS) systems. This breakthrough guide to cutting-edge DSS technology fills an information gap that—until now—has hampered technicians and others interested in working with DSS television systems.

For technicians, students, and intermediate- to advanced-level electronics hobbyists, this illustrated manual delivers hard-to-find technical data and details on DSS installation, maintenance, and operation. If you're a layperson, you'll learn how to select a system that meets your needs, as well as how to install and adjust your own receiver and dish.

Electronics consultant Robert L. Goodman provides you with an in-depth examination of how DSS works and reviews the current global satellite configuration. He covers such other topics as:

- Digital vs. analog transmission
- DSS systems, including RCA and Primestar
- Complex DSS systems
- The Hughes satellites
- System needs and certification

The section on installation gives you step-by-step instructions on setting up equipment, selecting a dish location and positioning it for maximum reception, activating the receiver, and properly operating equipment. You'll also get the lowdown on programming service availability and cost, anticipated developments, and more.

Includes special coverage of programming services

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